Filey Urban District Council.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health,

for the Year ended 31st December, 1913.

FILEY, February 3rd, 1914.

REPORT FOR THE PAST YEAR, 1913,

Birth-rate for Year, 15 per thousand.

I beg to inform you that forty-eight births were registered in Filey during 1913, twenty-five males and twenty-three females. This gives a birth-rate for the year of fifteen per thousand, which is the lowest birth-rate I have recorded.

Death-rate for Year, 11·25.

Thirty-six deaths occurred during the year, twenty males and sixteen females. This gives for the year a death-rate of eleven decimal twenty-five.

Fifteen of these deaths occurred in persons over seventy years of age, one person reaching the advanced age of eighty-seven years.

During the year only two deaths occurred in children under one year, which is much below the average.

Considering the heat and dryness of the summer we have had little sickness.

Notifiable cases during the year have been very few. No notifiable epidemic disease has occurred during the whole year.

There has been only one Coroner's inquest in the year—this was upon a man found drowned on the Brigg.

The inspection of the district in conformity with the provisions of the "Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909" has been continued.

Particulars of inspections made during the year 1913 were as follow, viz:

Houses inspected, 229.

Houses in which defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders, 203.

In sixteen houses there was no cause of complaint.

In ten houses defects have still to be remedied.

I consider the "Housing and Town Planning Act" has been attended with very good results in Filey.

I have found no cases of overcrowding and in the great majority of cases the houses inspected were clean and well kept.

Examination of the Sanitary Inspector's Report shows that a great many Sanitary Improvements were effected in addition to those carried out under the provisions of the "Housing and Town Planning Act," there being altogether five hundred and ninety-eight operations in two hundred and forty-seven separate premises. I append tabulated list of these improvements.

The Council supply water under the authority of the "Filey Water and Gas Act, 1898." Our water supply is excellent in quality and in abundance. The main source of supply is from an artesian well situated near the station, the well is 365 feet from the surface, the water is so pure that it is pumped directly into the mains and the Council's reservoir at Hunmanby is kept well filled from this source. I have visited the reservoir at Hunmanby and found everything well kept and in good condition. The last chemical and bacteriological examination of the water showed it to be of a most satisfactory character and well fitted for a town's supply. Rain fell on 174 days, and averaged 20·18 inches for the year, which is the driest year in the last six years.

The Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds have been regularly inspected during the year, and no serious complaints have had to be made. Most of the milk supply of the town is brought in from outside the Urban area; the quality of the milk is very good.

The Sewerage and Drainage of the town has been satisfactory and sufficient during the year, the town being situated so very high above the Sea level, the outfall which is carried into the Sea at low water mark, renders the disposal of our Sewage practically easy. There are no cesspools in the district, and every house has a direct connection with the town sewers.

The Council's staff, under the direction of our Sanitary Inspector, do the Scavenging of the district. The neighbouring farmers readily buy the refuse for agricultural purposes, and there is no accumulation. I have had no complaints about the Scavenging and I consider it is well done. The improvements in the ashpits and refuse bins will make this work easier and the Staff will be able to do it more perfectly.

The Schools in the district have been regularly inspected and found satisfactory. The Medical Inspection of the School Children is carried out by the County Council, and is doing much good in improving the health of the children.

I have inspected the several Factories and Workshops in the district during the year and found them well ventilated and no overcrowding.

The Bakeries and Slaughter-houses have been regularly inspected and found to be well kept and clean. We have not found any diseased meat or food in our inspections during the year.

I append statistics showing the causes of all Deaths, also the Infant Mortality and Infectious Disease Tables in our district for the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,
Your obedient Servant,
J. THOMAS HAWORTH.